

July 18, 2011

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Comment Regarding LightSquared Technical Working Group Report, IB Docket No. 11-109

Dear Ms. Dortch,

I reside in Georgetown, Maine nestled amidst beautiful Reid State Park. Our home will be passed down to my sister and me at some point in the long and distant future. I take great pride in keeping up the home, fixing the stonework, and maintaining the dock I catch lobster off of for dinner. It's not a glamorous life by any stretch, but it is one I love.

In my career, I am often required to telecommute. I tend to do project management work which I can do from anywhere. The issue is that we have no access to reliable high speed internet, and dial-up just doesn't cut it anymore. I finally broke down and got a Verizon wireless card for most of my work, though I have to be careful not to overuse the data limit. For video conferences, I visit my friends an hour south in Portland. Thankfully, those are rare for now, but I'm noticing a disturbing uptick in the number which could prove to be a real problem. I also sell things on Ebay (try uploading photos on a wireless card!) to add a bit to the bank account.

As with anything in rural Maine, we make do with what we have. That said, we are getting left further and further behind our urban counterparts in the technological department. The way business gets done is changing with the technology, and it is becoming harder and harder to keep up. What used to take days, now takes minutes and expected response rates run accordingly. I can make do, but there are many other neighbors of mine who are already getting left behind. It's just going to get worse.

I encourage the FCC to continue pursuing a solution to the LightSquared 4G wireless build-out. This would provide me a real chance to continue the life I've lived my whole life while keeping up with the changing world of business. It would also allow our state to truly transform our vision of rural economic development. Instead of choosing between unemployment and WalMart, people could have real choice in their careers. Like me, their careers could follow them instead of the other way around. Further, it would spur local economic opportunity, thus creating more locally-owned, small businesses. Oh, and we wouldn't be so dependent on the very few companies who we are lucky enough to have serve us. Instead, we could choose which company we wanted to do business with.

Please don't let the American Dream turn into a pipe dream. Like I said, I can make do. Many others are not so fortunate.

Respectfully,

Gregory Brown
Georgetown, Maine